

Message Text

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ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 SR-02 ORM-01 VO-01 SCA-01

CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 INSE-00 L-01

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R 160825Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7448

C O N F I D E N T I A L BLANTYRE 1358

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MI

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR ASYLUM: ALFRED L. KAPAZIRA

REF: STATE 190415

1. DURING PAST SEVERAL WEEKS EMBASSY HAS EXPLORED WITH GOM QUESTION OF MALAWIANS, INCLUDING AID PARTICIPANTS SUCH AS KAPAZIRA, WHO OCCASIONALLY SEEK TO AVOID RETURNING HOME AFTER TRAINING. BASIS OF DISCUSSION WAS THAT INTERESTS OF NEITHER USG NOR MALAWI ARE SERVED WHEN INVESTMENT IN TRAINED MANPOWER IS LOST THROUGH PARTICIPANT'S RELUCTANCE TO RETURN HOME. AS WE HAD NOTED OTHER CASES IN WHICH "POLITICAL" GROUNDS WERE OFFERED AS BASIS FOR UNWILLINGNESS TO RETURN, WE SOUNDED OUT GOM ON POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING FRANK EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON WHETHER INDIVIDUALS IN FACT WERE IN POLITICAL DIFFICULTY AS THEY OCCASIONALLY ALLEGED.

2. GOM, NOTING NEED FOR ALL AVAILABLE TRAINED MANPOWER, AGREED TO STATE ON REQUEST WHETHER AN INDIVIDUAL TRAINEE WOULD BE SUBJECT TO ARREST OR DETENTION IF HE RETURNED TO MALAWI. GOM UNDERTOOK TO ENSURE THAT DOUBTFUL CASES WOULD BE DESCRIBED AS SUCH, IN WHICH CASE THEY WOULD ACCEPT THAT INDIVIDUALS MIGHT NOT BE DEPORTED FROM U.S.

3. KAPAZIRA CASE HAS BEEN DISCUSSED IN ABOVE CONTEXT. AFTER
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CHECKING, GOM ADVISED THAT KAPAZIRA IS IN NO KNOWN CRIMINAL OR

POLITICAL DIFFICULTY AND IS FREE TO RETURN TO MALAWI AND TAKE UP EMPLOYMENT. GOM OFFICIAL CONCERNED MENTIONED THAT BROTHER OF KAPAZIRA TRAINED UNDER BRITISH ASUPICES SIMILARLY RESISTED RETURN TO MALAWI. AT BRITISH INSISTENCE BROTHER KAPAZIRA EVENTUALLY RETURNED AND IS NOW EMPLOYED BY MALAWI HOUSING CORP.

4. FYI: RECORDS AVAILABLE TO EMBASSY INDICATE THAT AS OF SEPTEMBER 1970 EMBASSY/AID CONSIDERED WEAK KAPAZIRA'S EVIDENCE SHOWING POLITICAL DIFFICULTY AND RECOMMENDED THAT SINCE GOM WANTED HIM BACK TO WORK IN NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE, HE SHOULD BE MADE TO RETURN. FILE IS NOTED "OUTCOME OF CASE NOT KNOWN."

5. ON BASIS OUR BELIEF THAT GOM UNDERTAKING WAS MADE IN GOOD FAITH, RECOMMEND KAPAZIRA BE DEPORTED AND URGED RETURN MALAWI FOR EMPLOYMENT. WE JUDGE THERE TO BE LITTLE DANGER TO KAPAZIRA PERSONALLY AS LONG AS HE LIVES NORMAL LIFE AND DOES NOT AGITATE POLITICALLY IN MALAWI. HE WOULD APPEAR TO BE TOO SMALL FISH FOR GOM TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST, ESPECIALLY WITH ATTENDANT RISK OF ILL FEELING WITH USG IF UNDERSTANDING WITH EMBASSY WERE DELIBERATELY DISREGARDED.
STEVENSON

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